



*The venerable Ananda went to see the Exalted One and said: “Venerable sir, there are these three fragrances that spread along with the wind, but not against the wind. What three? The fragrance of roots, the fragrance of heartwood, and the fragrance of flowers. Venerable sir, is there any fragrance that spreads with the wind, against the wind, and both ways alike?”*

*“There is such a fragrance, Ananda.”*

*“What is that fragrance, Venerable sir?”*

*“In this connection, Ananda, in whatsoever village or district there is a woman or a man who has taken refuge in the Buddha, the Dhamma, and the Sangha; who abstains from killing, stealing, sexual misconduct, false speech, and intoxicants, the basis of heedlessness; who is virtuous, of a lovely nature; who dwells at home with a heart free from the taint of stinginess, open-handed, delighting in giving up, devoted to charity—in such a case, the wise in all quarters speak praise of him or her. Moreover, the deities and spirits speak praise of him or her. This, Ananda, is the fragrance that goes with the wind, against the wind, and both ways alike.”*

*The fragrance of flowers goes not against the wind,*

*Nor the fragrance of sandal, musk, or jasmine.*

*But the good person’s fragrance goes against the wind:*

*The fragrance of good people goes everywhere.*

